



Take a closer look . . .

Operation Quality Time

Hundreds of nonprofit programs receive federal funding each year to assist them in carrying out their mission. As a Congressman, Rep. Ed Pastor plays an important role in supporting funding for programs that benefit his constituents.

Operation Quality Time, Inc., an innovative after-school prevention program for at-risk youth, is one of the programs that has received Pastor's support as it has demonstrated an unbending commitment to its mission.

The nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization was founded in 1987 by Mildred Norman, a Valley resident and former teacher who wanted to address the severity of drug and alcohol problems among youth. After visiting 26 agencies including rehabilitation organizations and law enforcement, asking "Why do kids get into drugs and alcohol?" she heard the same answer over and over - "they have too much time, too little supervision and low self-esteem." To address these issues, Operation Quality Time was created.

Operation QT currently has programs in 11 schools. It recently received a grant for \$300,000 from the U.S. Department of Justice for the 2006-

2007 fiscal year. "Operation QT takes a prevention approach to reach children when they're young and provide them with a sense of self-esteem and confidence," said Rep. Pastor.

"Their approach makes good sense. They reach the kids at the schools and they allow the schools to decide how to run their individual programs, since they know their kids best."

The latest round of federal funding for Operation QT will be used to expand and continue its programs at:

ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

Campo Bello
Glenn L. Downs
Palomino I Elementary School
Ed and Verma Pastor
Bret Tarver

MIDDLE SCHOOLS

Marc T. Atkinson
Frank Borman
Pueblo Del Sol

HIGH SCHOOLS

Trevor Browne
Glendale
Carl Hayden



Mildred Norman, founder of Operation QT, Inc., discussed Rep. Pastor's support of the programs at Pueblo del Sol Middle School with instructor Jaime Soto and assistant principal Gerard Hernandez.



Band classes for seventh- and eighth-grade students at Pueblo del Sol Middle School in Phoenix receive federal funding through the Operation QT, Inc., program supported by Rep. Pastor.

The after-school programs include recreation and academic components that focus on delinquency prevention. Programs vary from a reading and math center to sports, Mariachi dancing, photography, and ballet.

Pastor reviews district needs for 2006

Rep. Ed Pastor recently met with local officials to discuss his federal agenda for 2006 and how to meet district needs.

He also announced the renewal of a Youthbuild grant for the Town of Guadalupe. The grant program teaches construction skills to young adults while providing affordable homes for low-income people.

In the photo on the right, Rep. Pastor meets with Glendale Councilwoman Joyce Clark to discuss federal projects for Glendale. In the photo on the left, Rep. Pastor met with Guadalupe representatives to discuss the Youthbuild grant and other federal projects for the town.



How to contact Congressman Pastor

Congressman Ed Pastor's office is in your city to serve your needs.

Please keep this information handy to contact his offices for assistance.

Web Page (use site for electronic mail): <http://www.house.gov/pastor>

Washington Office

2465 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515-0302
Phone: (202) 225-4065

Phoenix District Office

411 N. Central Ave., Suite 150
Phoenix, AZ 85004
Phone: (602) 256-0551

I ENCOURAGE YOU TO SEND MAIL ONLY TO MY PHOENIX DISTRICT OFFICE.

Due to the threat of anthrax-contaminated mail delivered to the Capitol complex, all incoming letters to my Washington Office must be irradiated before delivery, resulting in a delay of at least three weeks. Feel free to send mail instead to my Phoenix District Office. Thanks.

✂ *Clip and save* ✂

Congressman

Ed Pastor

WASHINGTON REPORT

2006 Agenda

February 2006

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CONGRESSMAN

Ed Pastor

WASHINGTON REPORT

2006 Agenda

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Fourth Congressional District - Arizona

February 2006

Facing challenges with real ideas and solutions

Dear Fellow Arizonans,

The beginning of a new year offers the opportunity for a fresh start, and I am hoping this year Congress will meet the challenges we face with realistic solutions that benefit all Americans.

As I look at the state of our union and visit with constituents, I see American families struggling because the Administration has failed to address America's priorities. Families in Arizona are facing rising health care costs and seniors are struggling to

make sense of the new Medicare prescription drug plan. Energy bills continue to climb, especially at the pump, while families are getting smaller paychecks and our nation's deficit is out of control.

With wages stagnant or falling, many Americans are not seeing the benefits of economic growth. To foster economic prosperity that reaches all American families and creates good jobs here at home, I support an agenda that makes key investments in education to ensure that we remain the world leader in in-

novation and dynamic growth. A commitment to education will ensure our future economic success.

I also support a prescription drug plan that is clear, fair and puts seniors first; measures that expand affordable health coverage for more Americans; and cutting the health care costs of small businesses and America's households.

America also needs a forward-looking energy policy that would ultimately end reliance on foreign oil and promote fuel alternatives. And to ensure our safety, I support strengthening our national security with methods such as providing first responders with equipment they need and improving air cargo security.

With real ideas and real solutions, we can address the serious challenges this nation faces.

Sincerely,

Ed Pastor
Member of Congress

Pastor visits defense workers



Rep. Pastor recently met with employees and representatives of Simula in south Phoenix to discuss the safety technology they have developed for the U.S. military.

United in a new direction for America

Congressman Pastor is working in Washington to advance Americans' priorities on issues like energy independence, fiscal responsibility, expanding jobs and the economy, health care that works for everyone and strong public schools.

"Americans want to take a new direction, where working families' interests are placed before special interests," Pastor said. "Honest leadership is needed to bring real solutions to the American people."

BOLSTER U.S. COMPETITIVENESS

Since 2001, 33,500 manufacturing jobs alone have been lost in Arizona, with 131,155 people currently looking for work. Rep. Pastor is working to promote investment in research and development, technology, and small business to spur innovation, growth and prosperity.

REDUCE ENERGY COSTS

Gas prices have increased by \$1.11 per gallon in Arizona since 2001. As a member of the Appropriations Subcommittee on Energy and Water, Rep. Pastor is working to reduce energy costs and decrease dependence on foreign oil through clean energy alternatives and energy assistance.



Students and representatives from Arizona State University's Conexiones program, which helps the children of migrant workers gain a high quality education, recently discussed federal immigration issues with Rep. Pastor.

HEALTH CARE THAT WORKS FOR EVERYONE

Since 2000, health insurance costs have increased by \$891 per person - a 45 percent increase - in Arizona. There are 970,000 people without health insurance in our state, an increase



Congressman Pastor recently met with Maricopa County Supervisor Andy Kunasek to discuss the 2006 issues in Congress that will affect the county and its more than three million residents.

of 13,000 uninsured persons since 2000. Many of Arizona's 797,108 Medicare patients have been denied medications or charged too much. Rep. Pastor is working to provide a health care system that works for everyone by continuing to fight for an affordable meaningful Medicare prescription drug program, repealing special interest provisions and lowering the costs of health care.

END OUT OF CONTROL DEFICITS

The national debt has increased to \$8 trillion. Rep. Pastor will work to stop the mortgaging of our children's future by restoring pay-as-you-go budget discipline.

STRONG NATIONAL DEFENSE PROTECTS AMERICA HERE AT HOME

There are more than 4,500 Arizonans in Iraq and Afghanistan serving our nation. Rep. Pastor is working to provide our forces with the equipment and resources necessary to get the job done and return home safely, improve national security and invest in first responders.

EXCELLENCE IN EDUCATION

Rep. Pastor is pushing to promote U.S. competitiveness, give American children the tools and opportunities necessary to succeed in science, math and literacy through quality early childhood education, good teachers in strong public schools and an affordable college education.

Access for Medicare beneficiaries

Constituents continue to contact Rep. Ed Pastor regarding the confusion the new Medicare prescription drug plan has created for the elderly and disabled. Pastor voted against this program because it did not provide adequate benefits and only confused the participants. The first

few weeks of the plan's implementation have failed many Medicare beneficiaries in the Fourth Congressional District. Many have difficulty obtaining their drugs, have been turned away or have been overcharged.

In Washington, Rep. Pastor is working with colleagues for

quick enactment of legislation that would ensure beneficiaries immediate access to medicines and provide federal reimbursement for pharmacies and states for costs they've incurred as a result of failures of the federal program.

Pastor addresses prescription questions from seniors at Guadalupe Center

Congressman Pastor recently met with seniors while Congress was in recess and answered many questions about the new Medicare prescription drug plan. Pastor said he is supporting measures to simplify the law, improve access to medicines and lower out-of-pocket costs by allowing Medicare beneficiaries to get coverage through Medicare rather than through private insurance companies.



Public education funding priorities

The most important issue for Americans is ensuring that their children have access to a high quality education. Parents and educators are concerned about the quality of education their children are receiving in local school districts across the country. When they look at public schools, Americans want:

- The performance of public schools to be improved
- Retain and recruit highly-qualified teachers for every classroom
- Safer schools
- The needs of special-needs children to be met
- After-school opportunities to be provided

In Congress, Rep. Pastor is supportive of a number of key education proposals that address the concerns of America's parents. Investment in education reform will give schoolchildren the resources they need to succeed.

South Mountain High School Junior Adam Falk recently interviewed Rep. Pastor about education issues in Congress for the school's radio station KJAG.

Cesar Chavez HS junior goes to Washington as House Page

Cesar Chavez High School Junior Ivvette Rios was recently nominated by Rep. Ed Pastor to serve as a Page in the U.S. House of Representatives on Capitol Hill.

Rios, 16, daughter of Gustavo and Amanda Rios of Phoenix, has a strong academic record and participates in band, athletics and service clubs at school. The college-bound clarinet player also runs track and has achieved a blue belt in Karate.

Pages are high school juniors who are hired by the House of Representatives to live, work, and study in Washington, D.C. Their duties consist primarily of deliv-

ering correspondence, legislative material, and small packages within the Congressional complex.

Pastor nominated Rios for the Fall 2005 semester and she performed so well that she was chosen to be among a class of 24 who will stay and work for the House of Representatives during the Spring 2006 session, Pastor said.

"This is a once in a lifetime opportunity and I'm proud for Ivvette and her family," Pastor said. "This will expose her to the workings of our government, the beauty of our nation's capital and open new doors of opportunity for her education and future career."



House Page Ivvette Rios from Phoenix discusses her duties on Capitol Hill with U.S. Rep Ed. Pastor.

Rep. Pastor nominates students to military academies



**Air Force Academy
Naval Academy
Military Academy
Coast Guard Academy
Merchant Marine Academy**



The following students, all Phoenix residents in the Fourth Congressional District, have been nominated by Rep. Ed Pastor to one of the nation's military academies:

Ryder Carleton, 18, senior at Wilson High School

Austin Converse, 19, freshman at Villanova University

Juan Cruz, 18, senior at Maryvale High School

Sean Gause, 18, senior at Brophy College Prep

Cortney Heaps, 17, senior at North High School

Johnny Martinez, 17, senior at Cesar Chavez High School

Jessie Ramirez, 18, first year cadet at U.S. Military Academy Prep School

2006 Mobile Office

To meet the needs of the constituents in his district, U.S. Rep. Ed Pastor, D-Ariz., will have a representative from his office at these locations in 2006 (mobile office hours are always 9 a.m. to 11 a.m.):

South Mountain Community Center
212 E. Alta Vista, Phoenix
First Wednesday of every month

Golden Gate Community Center
1625 N. 39th Ave., Phoenix
Second Tuesday of every *other* month
Begins in February

Desert West Community Center
6501 W. Virginia Ave., Phoenix
Second Tuesday of every *other* month
Begins in March

Glendale Community Center
5401 W. Ocotillo, Glendale
Third Thursday of every month

Guadalupe Senior Center
9401 S. Avenida del Yaqui, Guadalupe
Fourth Tuesday of every month.